

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 151620Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 968

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3362

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: HLTH

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ANALYSIS BY PHS CENTER DISEASE CONTROL,
ATLANTA

1. NAMRU-3 REQUESTED BY PHYSICIAN ATTACHED TO PRESIDENCY
TO CONDUCT NECROPSY TEST ON MONKEY WHICH BIT "HIGH PERSONALITY"
(FYI: THIS COULD MEAN PRESIDENT OR MRS. SADAT. END FYI)
TWO MONKEYS ONE DEAD AND ONE ALIVE WERE DELIVERED TO
NAMRU-3 WHOSE STAFF WILL DO RABIES TEST IN THEIR LABORATORY
FACILITIES. NAMRU DOCTORS, HOWEVER, RECOMMEND THAT FURTHER
TESTS BEYOND CAPABILITY OF THEIR FACILITIES, BE CONDUCTED
BY PUBLIC HEALTH & SERVICES CENTER OF DISEASE CONTROL
AT ATLANTA TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY OTHER VIRUSES
WERE PRESENT.

2. MONKEYS WERE FIT TO PRESIDENT SADAT FROM SENEGAL,
ARRIVING CAIRO MARCH 10. ON MARCH 12 ONE OF TWO
MONKEYS BIT HUMAN AND SUBSEQUENTLY DIED IN
QUARANTINE IN CAIRO ZOO MARCH 15.

3. DR. IBRAHIM BATATA, ONE OF PRESIDENCY
PHYSICIANS, REQUESTED THAT THESE FURTHER TESTS
BE CONDUCTED TO ASSURE THAT NO OTHER SERIOUS
DISEASES WERE PRESENT.

4. IN VIEW OF ABOVE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS
THAT DEPARTMENT ARRANGE FOR APPROPRIATE TESTS TO
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BE CONDUCTED BY PHS CENTER DISEASE CONTROL AT

ATLANTA. WE REQUEST THAT DEPARTMENT SEND FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO DR. DAVID SENSER, DIRECTOR CENTER OF DISEASE CONTROL, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ATLANTA, GEORGIA: QUOTE "TISSUE SAMPLES FROM UNKNOWN GENUS NON-HUMAN PRIMATE (SPECIES: GALAGO-SENEGALENSIS-BUSH BABY) BEING SENT FROM NAMRU-3, CAIRO. NON-HUMAN PRIMATE ARRIVED CAIRO 10 MARCH FROM SENEGAL. BIT HUMAN 12 MARCH. ANIMAL DIED IN QUARANTINE 15 MARCH. CAGEMATE STILL ALIVE.

"SAMPLES PACKED IN DRY ICE OR WET PACK, SUBMITTED FOR VIROLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL STUDIES AT CDC CONTAINMENT FACILITY. INFO PACKET ACCOMPANIES SAMPLES.

"LCDR W. A. FERRIS NAMRU-3 ARRIVES JFK NEW YORK TWA FLIGHT 841 APPROXIMATELY 1600 HOURS 17 MARCH WITH SAMPLES. REQUEST PHS QUARANTINE OFFICIALS MEET FERRIS AND ACCEPT SAMPLES FOR TRANSFER TO CDC. END QUOTE

5. REQUEST CONFIRMATION THAT LCDR FERRIS, WHO ALREADY SCHEDULED TRAVEL ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS AT THIS TIME WILL BE MET AT JFK AIRPORT NY AS REQUESTED AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE BY PHS QUARANTINE OFFICIALS TO TRANSFER SAMPLES TO CDC.
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